



THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY

1230 YORK AVENUE

NEW YORK, NY 10021

June 12, 1979

JOSHUA LEDERBERG

PRESIDENT

Mr. Laurance S. Rockefeller  
Room 5600  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York, New York 10020

Dear Laurance:

I am writing to bring you up-to-date on plans which are underway for the 1979 Fairfield Osborn Memorial Lecture. As you recall, we have agreed that responsibility for organizing the lectures should rotate, each year, among the Conservation Foundation, The New York Zoological Society and The Rockefeller University. This rotational system will efficiently centralize, with each organization in turn, the tasks of selecting a speaker, date and location, as well as all necessary details of invitations and physical arrangements. I am confident that we will all find this to be an effective way of conducting the Fairfield Osborn Lectures while still insuring that the three sponsoring organizations are regularly and fully informed of plans as they develop.

I am delighted that we have been successful in enlisting Dr. Russell Peterson, newly appointed President of the National Audubon Society, to give the next Fairfield Osborn Lecture on Monday, November 12, here at the University. Enclosed is a copy of Dr. Peterson's biography as it appears in the International Who's Who along with an article which you may have seen in the May 22nd New York Times. We have enthusiastic recommendations from those who know him as both a scientist and a public official committed to informed analysis and action on environmental issues.

It is very good news that you have invited Prince Philip to speak on behalf of The New York Zoological Society at Alice Tully Hall in the fall of 1980. That important occasion will be followed, in 1981, by a speaker to be enlisted by the Conservation Foundation.

Mr. Laurance S. Rockefeller  
June 12, 1979

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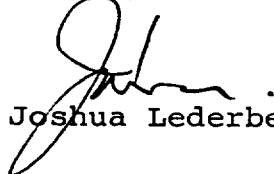
Our plans are already in process for the November 12 lecture so that we can extend invitations as far in advance as possible. In that regard, your help in submitting lists of invitees is most important at this time. Messrs. Richard Dana and Barry Dress of the University's staff will be in touch with you, and you may wish to designate a member of your organization with whom they can coordinate all invitations and other arrangements.

There is every reason for the Fairfield Osborn Lectures to flourish as an important forum for the presentation of distinguished speakers who address significant and compelling topics related to conservation. As we look to the future, it would be useful to pool a range of suggestions for possible lecturers, and my colleagues and I will be developing our thoughts for joint review. Two other items for our mutual concern are the possibility of publishing each lecture, and the development of a small, annual conference to explore more systematically the themes advanced at the lectures. I am very interested in your reactions and any other ideas you may have for shaping the lecture series.

Finally, I should like to express my gratitude for the generous support provided by The New York Zoological Society and the Conservation Foundation which makes the Osborn Lectures possible.

My thanks for your partnership in this program.

Yours sincerely



Joshua Lederberg

cc: Mr. William K. Reilly  
Mr. William Conway  
Mr. Howard Phipps, Jr.

Encl.

bcc: Mr. Rodney W. Nichols  
Mr. Richard Dana  
Mr. Barry Dress